### Project/Topic of your Clinical Question:

**Reviewer:**

**Today’s Date:**

**Final Evidence Level:**

**Article Title:**

**Year:**

**First Author:**

**Journal:**

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### Do the study aim/purpose/objectives and inclusion/exclusion criteria assist in answering your clinical question?

- **Yes**
- **No**
- **Unknown**

- **Study Aim/Purpose/Objectives:**

- **Inclusion Criteria:**

- **Exclusion Criteria:**

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### Is a cross-sectional study congruent with the author’s study aim/purpose/objectives above?

- **Yes**
- **No**
- **Unknown**

**Comments:**

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### Do the study aim/purpose/objectives and inclusion/exclusion criteria assist in answering your clinical question?

- **Yes**
- **No**
- **Unknown**

- **Study Aim/Purpose/Objectives:**

- **Inclusion Criteria:**

- **Exclusion Criteria:**

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### VAlIDITY: ARE THE RESULTS OF THE CROSS–SECTIONAL STUDY VALID OR CREDIBLE?

#### 1. Are the study methods clearly described and appropriate for the question?

- **Yes**
- **No**
- **Unknown**

- **Is the setting clearly described and appropriate?**

- **Was there a representative sample of patients at a well-defined point in the course of the condition of interest?**

- **Is the sample population clearly described and sufficient?**

**Comments:**

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#### 2. Were the participants similar *(homogeneous)* with respect to known factors of interest *(e.g., demographic, exposure, risk, treatment, or etiology)?

- **Yes**
- **No**
- **Unknown**

**Comments:**

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#### 3. Were objective and unbiased criteria used to measure the variable of interest?

- **Yes**
- **No**
- **Unknown**

- **Was the variable of interest quantifiable and precisely measurable?**

- **Were instruments used to measure the variable of interest tested to be valid and reliable?**

**Comments:**
4. Was there freedom from conflict of interest?  
   - Sponsor/Funding Agency or Investigators
   
   Comments:
   
   ☐ Yes  ☐ No  ☐ Unknown

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5. Did the study have a sufficiently large sample size?  
   - Was a power analysis described?
   - Did the sample size achieve or exceed that resulting from the power analysis?
   - Did each subgroup also have sufficient sample size (e.g., at least 6 to 12 participants)?
   
   Comments:
   
   ☐ Yes  ☐ No  ☐ Unknown

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6. Were the statistical analysis methods appropriate?  
   - Were the statistical analysis methods clearly described?
   - If subgroups were evaluated, was a statistical adjustment made for the differences?
   
   Comments:
   
   ☐ Yes  ☐ No  ☐ Unknown

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7. What are the main results of the study? (e.g., Helpful data: Page #, Table #, Figures, Graphs)  
   - For a Prevalence Study: What is the rate (e.g., number per population)?
   - For an Etiology Study: How strong is the association/correlation between known factors and the variable of interest?
   - What were the measures of statistical uncertainty (e.g., precision)? (Were the results presented with Confidence Intervals or Standard Deviations?)

8. Were the results statistically significant?  
   Note: This question may not be applicable in all prevalence studies.
   
   Comments:
   
   ☐ Yes  ☐ No  ☐ Unknown

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9. Were the results clinically significant?  
   - If potential confounders were identified, were they discussed in relationship to the results?
   
   Comments:
   
   ☐ Yes  ☐ No  ☐ Unknown
### Applicability: Can I apply these valid, important study results to my population?

10. Can the results be applied to my population of interest?  
   - Is the setting of the study applicable to my population of interest?  
   - Were the participants in this study similar to my population of interest?  
   - Does the variable of interest apply to my population or question of interest?

   Comments:

11. Are my patient’s and family’s values and preferences satisfied by the knowledge gained from this study?  

   Comments:

12. Would you include this study/article in development of a care recommendation?  

   Comments:

### Additional Comments or Conclusions (“Take-Home Points”):
**QUALITY LEVEL / EVIDENCE LEVEL**

- Consider each “No” answer and the degree to which this limitation is a threat to the validity of the results, then check the appropriate box to assign the level of quality for this study/article.
- Consider an “Unknown” answer to one or more questions as a similar limitation to answering “No,” if the information is not available in the article.

**THE EVIDENCE LEVEL IS:**

- **Good Quality Cross-Sectional Study:**
  - Etiology / Risk Factors: 4a
  - Prevalence: 3a

- **Lesser Quality Cross-Sectional Study:**
  - Etiology / Risk Factors: 4b
  - Prevalence: 3b

- **Not Valid, Reliable, or Applicable**

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### Table of Evidence Levels

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*RCT = Randomized Controlled Trial; CCT = Controlled Clinical Trial

Development for this appraisal form is based on: